

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 7, 8, 11, 12, 14, 15, 20, 21, 24, 25, 30, 31, 37, 38, 43, 44, 47, 48, 53, 54 and 57-96 are pending in this application, with claims 1, 2, 7, 8, 57, 61, 65, 70, 75, 80, 85 and 91 being independent. Claims 1, 2, 7 and 8 have been amended to overcome various informalities specified by the Examiner. Fig. 7 of the drawings has been amended to correct the position of "NODE b." The correct position of NODE b is described in the specification on page 13, lines 25-28. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1, 2, 7, 8, 20, 21, 24, 25, 30, 31, 37, 38, 43, 44, 47, 48, 53 and 54 have been objected to because of various informalities. Applicants have amended claims 1, 2, 7 and 8 to delete the term "means" per the Examiner's suggestion, and, therefore, applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection.

Claims 1, 2, 14, 15, 24, 25, 37, 38, 47, 48 and 57-64 have been rejected for double-patenting as being unpatentable over claim 8 of U.S. Patent No. 6,870,895. Applicants submit the attached Terminal Disclaimer to obviate this rejection. Accordingly, applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the Examiner's indication that the pending claims would be allowed if claims 1, 2, 7 and 8 were amended to overcome the above objection as to form and if applicants submit a terminal disclaimer to overcome the above double-patenting rejection. Applicants have amended claims 1, 2, 7 and 8 to overcome the above objection and have submitted a terminal disclaimer to overcome the above rejection. Applicants, therefore, respectfully request allowance of the pending claims.


Attached is a \$180 check for submission of an Information Disclosure Statement. Please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

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Respectfully submitted,

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